

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-13 (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method of changing a status of a portion of network address space from free to another status, comprising:

receiving a request of a block size to allocate for a current network with a new status, the request identifying a specified range to allocate from;

detecting within a definitional listing for the network address space, a block with free status of sufficient size to cover the block size to allocate;

assigning, for the current network, the new status to the detected block within the definitional listing;

detecting whether a block of the requested size exists within the network address space assigned to the current network;

lending a block from a second network that aggregates with the current network when a block of the requested size does not exist within the network address space assigned to the current network; and

returning a fail indication and not lending a block from a second network that aggregates with the current network when a block of the requested size does not exist within the specified range but does exist within the current network, and

~~The computer-implemented method of claim 12, wherein lending a block from another a second network comprises[[:]]~~

detecting whether a block of at least the requested size exists within a specified range of the network address space assigned to the second network[[:];],

when a block of at least the requested size exists within a specified range of the network address space assigned to the second network, splitting the block until it is the requested size and moving a resulting block from the second network to the current network as represented within the definitional listing[[:];], and

when a block of the requested size does not exist within the specified range, lending a block from a third network that aggregates with the second network.

15. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 14, wherein when lending a block from the second network includes receiving a rated fit selection, the method further comprises:

rating each block of the second network of at least the requested size according to a block size and whether there is aggregation with child descendant aggregate blocks of a requesting or other child network; and

selecting a block with the best rating.

Claims 16-43 (Canceled)

44. (New) A computer storage media having computer-executable instructions stored thereon for changing a status of a portion of network address space from free to another status which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to:

receive a request of a block size to allocate for a current network with a new status, the request identifying a specified range to allocate from;

detect within a definitional listing for the network address space, a block with free status of sufficient size to cover the block size to allocate;

assign, for the current network, the new status to the detected block within the definitional listing;

detect whether a block of the requested size exists within the network address space assigned to the current network;

lend a block from a second network that aggregates with the current network when a block of the requested size does not exist within the network address space assigned to the current network; and

return a fail indication and not lend a block from a second network that aggregates with the current network when a block of the requested size does not exist within the specified range but does exist within the current network, and wherein lending a block

from a second network comprises detecting whether a block of at least the requested size exists within a specified range of the network address space assigned to the second network, when a block of at least the requested size exists within a specified range of the network address space assigned to the second network, splitting the block until it is the requested size and moving a resulting block from the second network to the current network as represented within the definitional listing, and when a block of the requested size does not exist within the specified range, lending a block from a third network that aggregates with the second network.

45. (New) The computer storage media of claim 44, having further computer-executable instructions stored thereon which, when executed by the computer, will cause the computer to:

determine whether lending a block from the second network includes receiving a rated fit selection; and

in response to determining that lending a block from the second network does include receiving a rated fit selection, to rate each block of the second network of at least the requested size according to a block size and whether there is aggregation with child descendant aggregate blocks of a requesting or other child network and to select a block with the best rating.